

## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

Contact: Community Outreach 805-339-4317

## Ventura Police Department to Participate in "Operation Clear Track" Single Largest Railroad Safety Detail in the U.S

<u>Event:</u> Operation Clear Track, Police enforcement/education event to be held in 48 states at railroad grade crossings that have a high number of vehicle and/or trespasser incidents or near misses

When: 9/24/19, 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Where: Two locations: Harbor Blvd and California Street and Harbor Blvd and Figueroa

Federal statistics show that about every three hours, a person or vehicle in the United States is hit by a train. "Operation Clear Track" is an effort by law enforcement, Operation Lifesaver, Amtrak and rail safety partner organizations to raise awareness of the dangers around railroad tracks. On Tuesday, September 24, the Ventura Police Department, Amtrak Police Department and Operation Lifesaver, the nonprofit rail safety education organization, will participate in "Operation Clear Track," along with more than 600 law enforcement agencies nationwide. The goal is to raise awareness and enforce state railroad grade crossing and trespassing laws. The 3rd annual rail safety detail, carried out in 48 states, is the single largest rail safety law enforcement initiative in the U.S.

During "Operation Clear Track," personnel will be stationed at targeted railroad grade crossing locations to issue citations or warnings to violators. Officials will also disseminate railroad safety cards to motorists and pedestrians. The goal of Rail Safety Week is to reduce pedestrian and driver injuries and fatalities around railroad tracks through increased public awareness and enforcement.

Please visit Operation Lifesaver's national website for safety tips and statistics <u>www.oli.org</u> or contact <u>www.Stayoffthetracks.org</u> for more information on "Operation Clear Track."

